

HB 784 -- INSURANCE

SPONSOR: DeGroot

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Insurance Policy by a vote of 8 to 3.

This bill repeals a provision relating to the recovery of a final judgment against any person, firm or corporation by any person for loss or damage on account of bodily injury or death, or damage to property if the defendant in such action was insured against said loss or damage at the time when the right of action arose.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this statute was drafted in 1925 and the original purpose that this legislation was created went away in 1929. The original intent was for a last resort method when you couldn't garnish wages. This law is outdated and needs to be repealed.

Testifying for the bill were Representative DeGroot; Angela Higgins; Missouri Insurance Coalition; and Chubb Insurance Group.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that many clients are protected under this provision. Carriers should be held accountable up to the limits of their policies. Allows insureds to have their right of adjudication under the policy.

Testifying against the bill was Kirk R Presley.